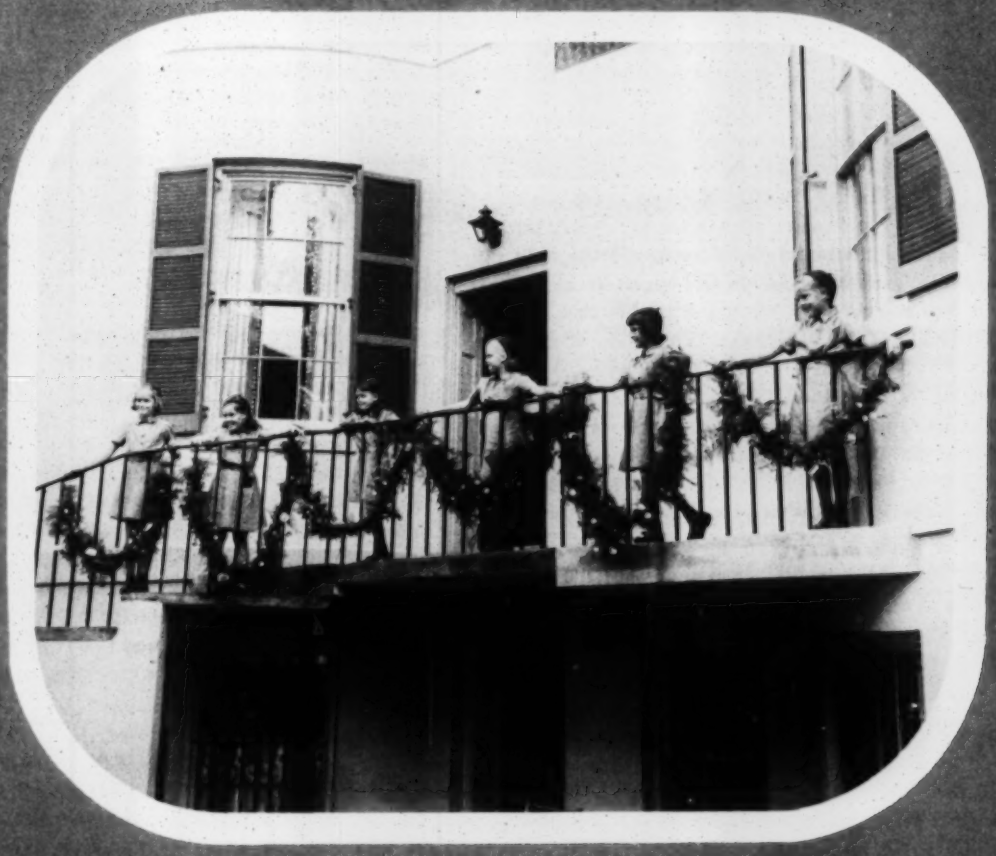
Historic Preservation



QUARTERLY OF THE NATIONAL TRUST
FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Vol. 8, Nos. 3–4, Fall–Winter 1956

ANNUAL MEETING

The tenth annual meeting of the National Trust was held October 19-20 last year in Washington, D. C., followed by a sightseeing trip to Fredericksburg, Va. October 21. Almost four hundred members and guests attended. A report of the year's activities and the business transacted at the meeting was made by David E. Finley, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and mailed in printed form to all National Trust members.

Resolutions adopted at the meeting by the membership on the resignations of Frederick L. Rath, Jr., director, and Henry H. Surface, administrator, were ordered printed in the Quarterly: WHEREAS, Mr. Frederick L. Rath has faithfully served for a period of eight years as the first Director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and WHEREAS, in this capacity Mr. Rath has rendered a notable service and contribution in helping to establish the policies and procedures of the National Trust, to fix standards for historic restoration throughout the nation, and to begin to set up a profession in this field, and WHEREAS, Mr. Rath has resigned his position, effective June 1, 1956, Now Therefore, Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the National Trust that we express our deep appreciation to Mr. Rath for his able and distinguished service, and Be it Resolved further that we express our wishes for his success in his future career. Resolved, That the Trustees express their thanks and appreciation to Henry H. Surface, Administrator of the National Trust for Historic Preservation from May 1, 1950, to September 30, 1956, for his loyal and devoted service to the Trust.

It was also decided to hold the 1957 annual meeting on October 11-13 in Salem, Mass.

NEW MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

The following organizations have joined the National Trust since August making a total organizational membership of 209:

Albany Institute of History and Art (N.Y.); Antiquarian Society of the Art Institute of Chicago, Ill.; Beacon Hill Architectural Commission (Mass.); The *Daily Pantagraph* (Ill.); Fort House Foundation (Texas); Franklin D. Roosevelt Warm Springs Memorial Commission (Ga.); Harris County Heritage and Conservation Society (Texas); Heritage Foundation of Rhode Island; Heritage Society of Austin (Texas); Historic Alexandria Foundation (Va.); Historic Districts Commission, Town of Nantucket (Mass.); Huntingdon Valley Garden Club (Pa.); Independence Hall Association (Pa.); Leesburg Garden Club (Va.); Litchfield Historical Society (Conn.); Longwood Foundation, Inc. (Pa.); Memphis Garden Club (Tenn.); Mt. Vernon District Improvement Association, Inc. (Md.); Moravian College (Pa.); Municipal Art Society of Baltimore City (Md.); Museum, National Society Daughters of American Revolution (D.C.); National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Alabama; Northern Neck of Virginia Historical Society; Philipstown Garden Club (N.Y.); Portsmouth Historical Association (Va.); Preservation Society of Charleston (S.C.); San Jose Mission National Historic Site (Texas); Spanish Treasury, Woman's Exchange (Fla.); Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences (Ga.); Texas Historical Foundation; Tryon Palace Commission (N.C.); Vieux Carré Property Owners and Associates, Inc. (La.).

JACKSON PLACE ON LAFAYETTE SQUARE

Following public announcement that General Services Administration has completed acquisition of all private property remaining in the block across Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House on the west of Lafayette Park for a new Federal Building No. 7, Richard H. Howland, president of the National Trust, issued the following public statement on Feb. 17.:

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is sorry to see so many changes in the architecture of Lafayette Square, involving the demolition of the few remaining nineteenth-century houses on the west side of the Square, in order to make way for a federal building to be erected in the block bounded by Pennsylvania Avenue, Jackson Place, 17th and H Streets. In consequence the Trust, itself, will be obliged to move its offices to another location.

We are assured, however, that Decatur House, Blair House and Blair-Lee House will be preserved intact and that the facade of the federal building facing Lafayette Square will be low and small in scale and will harmonize in architectural style with these three historic houses. We hope that adequate parking will be provided in connection with the new building to be erected.

We are also informed that three of the houses on Jackson Place, which were privately owned, were scheduled for demolition to make way for an office building, in the event the federal government did not require the properties in this block for its own use. In these circumstances the Trust cannot protest against the government's action, especially in view of the plans the General Services Administration has made for a harmonious building on Jackson Place.

The Girl Scouts dedicate the birthplace of their founder, Juliette Gordon Low, in Savannah, Ga. —*Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.*

PROPOSED PRESERVATION

Beaverdam, Va. Patrick Henry's early Hanover County residence, *Scotchtown,* is being restored by the Hanover County branch of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities. The late Thomas T. Waterman described the weatherboarded frame house as one of Virginia's oldest manor houses. It was built by Charles Chiswell of Williamsburg, and other noted owners of the house were Speaker John Robinson, the Randolphs of Turkey Island and Dolly Madison. It was from *Scotchtown* that Patrick Henry went to St. John's Church, Richmond, to deliver his "Liberty or Death" speech. He was living here when he was elected first governor of the new state of Virginia. It will be the first memorial to the statesman in the county of his birth. The central committee of the Association gave $15,000 for the project and the local chapter is seeking funds to complete the restoration during the Jamestown Festival year.

Rochester, N. Y. Orringh Stone Tavern (1792), the oldest house in Monroe County, has been acquired by the Society for the Preservation of Landmarks in Western New York. It will be used as a permanent exhibit of the history of the city.

Defiance, Mo. A non-profit group known as the Daniel Boone Shrine Association is seeking funds to acquire the old stone house in which Boone died near Defiance and a 509-acre farm to develop into a pioneer village of the Boone era. The association has an option to buy the restored house at $135,000 with the land, and period furnishings for an additional $40,000.

Jefferson, Ohio. The law office of Joshua R. Giddings, called "the birthplace of the national Republican party program," has been acquired by the Ashtabula Historical Society. An auction of antiques was held last year to raise funds for its restoration. Giddings was a delegate to the first nominating convention in Philadelphia in 1856, and worked on the writing of the platform in this office. He served in Congress from 1838 to 1851 and was appointed consul general to Canada by Lincoln in 1861 and served there until his death in 1864.

Austin, Texas. Former Governor and Mrs. Allan Shivers have acquired historic *Woodlawn* (1853-54), a mansion which has been the residence of the Pease family for more than a century. It was built by Abner Cook, one of the state's noted early builders and is situated in a city block of wooded landscaped grounds, the remainder of its former 200-acre site.

Washington, D. C. A bill to convert the historic Old Patent Office into an art gallery has been proposed. The plan is to turn the early building over to the Smithsonian Institution for a national portrait gallery.

Scotchtown, near Beaverdam, Hanover County, Va.
—Flournoy, Virginia State Chamber of Commerce

Memphis, Tenn. The Memphis Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities proposes acquiring and preserving a century-old house in that city. To stimulate interest in their project they installed an early American kitchen in the Woman's Department of the Centennial Fair.

San Diego, Calif. Men who sailed the carrier *Enterprise* through 20 Pacific engagements in World War II have appealed to the President to save the "fightingest ship in Naval history" from the scrap heap and to moor it at San Diego embarcadero next to the old sailing ship *Star of India.* San Diego was the first home port of the carrier.

Newport, R. I. At their last annual meeting, the Society of Friends of Touro Synagogue reported that $55,000 had been raised of a proposed $300,000 fund sought by 1958 to restore this earliest synagogue in the country. Built in 1763 by architect Peter Harrison, the synagogue has been a National Historic Site since 1946.

ENGLISH TRUST PRIVILEGES

Affiliated membership in the National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty is extended to members of the National Trust. By the payment of an extra $1.50 in dues, members will receive free admission to all the properties administered by the English National Trust and the National Trust for Scotland. They will not receive publications nor will they be able to vote in the Trust's councils. Those who wish these additional privileges may enroll for full English Trust membership for 20 shillings ($2.80), which this office will transmit.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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President: Richard H. Howland
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PLANNING PROGRAM

As part of a planning program for the future of the National Trust, a Committee on Planning was appointed at the direction of the Board of Trustees last year. After a number of meetings the commitee submitted its report to the Board of Trustees at its March 29 meeting. Those serving on the Committee were: David E. Finley, Chairman, Christopher Crittenden, Richard H. Howland, Ronald F. Lee, H. Alexander Smith, Jr., Walter A. Taylor and Charles C. Wall. A detailed statement of the Committee's program will be made in the next issue of the *Quarterly.*

First of the plans to be carried into action is that for an extended publications program. Elsewhere in this issue is the notice of publications which the National Trust has available now, and others are scheduled for publication in the coming year, in many cases in collaboration with other member organizations or co-sponsors.

First to benefit by the expanded program is the *Quarterly.* This issue closes the old series in the present format. In 1957 a smaller journal with more pages and illustrations, including articles contributed by members, will be published. This will be in a size which is commonly used for such journals and will lend itself to binding and indexing.

Design for the new *Quarterly* and revision of the National Trust Fact Sheet are being studied by a New York firm specializing in fine typographical design, and the study is being contributed through one of our member corporations. —R. H. H.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

The Chamber of Commerce Civic Affairs Committee of Norfolk, Va., has recommended that the City Council appoint a permanent commission to be concerned with the preservation of historic and natural landmarks. The report of the group emphasized, however, that "no form of artistic censorship on aesthetic design is intended to be exercised by this body. Rather what is desired is that such aesthetic questions as normally go unheeded because of public apathy would now become live issues and for full public discussion."

Largely through the efforts of the Nantucket Historical Association (a Trust member) an old and historic district has been created. The legislation, modeled after that of the Beacon Hill District, provides for a board of architectural review to pass on proposed construction or alterations to old structures in the area.

The twenty-ninth National Park was established in the Virgin Islands last year. It will include some 10,000 acres on the island of St. John and adjacent rocks and cays, and will preserve outstanding scenic and historic features of national significance according to former Secretary of the Interior Davis. More than 5,000 acres of the park were a donation of Laurence S. Rockefeller.

Application has been made by the city of Providence, R. I., for a Demonstration Grant under the provisions of the Federal Housing Act of 1954. The area chosen for the demonstration is the College Hill area, one of 376 acres, which includes 252 residences and 64 public and other buildings of the colonial and federal period. Among the churches in the area is St. Johns Cathedral, one of the earliest cathedrals in the country. The area contains Brown University, Pembroke Collegé, the Rhode Island College of Pharmacy and the Rhode Island School of Design, all of which are in need of expansion. The area also has overcrowded slums, derelict buildings, narrow streets choked with through traffic, parking problems, lacks recreation areas and contains only one small park. The Providence Preservation Society (a Trust member) is urging renewal of the area and is pledging time and funds for the purpose. The Rhode Island Chapter of the American Institute of Architects devoted a meeting to the project. It is intended that the grant be used to demonstrate methods and techniques for developing feasible programs for preservation, restoration and renewal in a historic area. The local group will pledge $25,000 to add to an estimated $50,000 of federal aid needed for the project.

Alderman Leon M. Depres has proposed an ordinance to create a Commission on Chicago Architectural Landmarks. In his proposal he called attention to architectural landmarks of international importance which have been lost, such as the Marshall Field Warehouse by H. H. Richardson and Frank Lloyd Wright's Midway Gardens. He suggests a listing and identification of important buildings and the development of a policy for safeguarding them.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

The Preservation Society of Newport County announced that more than 49,000 persons visited *The Breakers* during the 1956 season.

William J. Murtagh of Philadelphia has been named director of the Annie S. Kemerer Museum in Bethlehem, Pa. The museum is to be housed in the historic Wolle Building, a Moravian structure on West Church Street, which is one of a number in the center of the historic preservation area in Bethlehem's Redevelopment program. Mr. Murtagh was educated at the University of Pennsylvania and at Bonn and Freiburg in Germany. His research experience includes a year in Germany and Switzerland studying for a doctoral dissertation on the architecture of the Pennsylvania Dutch; and work with the National Park Service in the Independence National Historic Park project area.

Research projects for the Winterthur Program in Early American Culture for the coming academic year, leading to a degree of Master of Arts at the University of Delaware, have been announced by Charles F. Hummel, curatorial assistant. Suggestions from members of the Trust are welcomed for sources of original materials on the following topics:

Wheatland, the residence of James Buchanan in Lancaster, Pa.; the life and work of Thomas Birch (1779-1851) Philadelphia landscape and marine painter; an inventory study of the homes of Newport, R. I., 1780-1805; the American trade in Chinese export porcelain; and a study of *Graeme Park* built 1721-22 in Montgomery County, by Sir William Keith, Governor of Pennsylvania.

A history of the Thompson House (1700-1720) in Setauket has just been published by the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities. The Society administers the house museum which is owned by the Stony Brook Community Fund. The booklet was written by Mrs. B. Langdon Tyler of Smithtown.

Three groups are aiding with plans to create a national center to honor John Philip Sousa, "the march king," at his residence on 318 Independence Ave., S. E. in Washington, D. C. Lt. Col. William F. Santelman, retired leader of the U. S. Marine Band which Sousa also commanded, is committee chairman for the project. Those promising to assist are the College Band Directors National Association, the National Catholic Bandmasters Association, and the American School Bands Association. Plans for a library of band music and instruments, and practice rooms for young local musicians are being discussed.

Attendance at Shelburne Museum, Vt., increased almost 30% over 1955 last year to a total of 44,000 visitors. The increase of children visitors from grade and high schools who attended in groups under teacher guidance was up 133% from the previous year's total.

Huntsville, Ala., will have a city museum in a handsome park setting through the bequest of Dr. William H. Burritt, who left this house, its furnishings, endowment and 160 surrounding acres of woodland on Round Top Mountain.—*Birmingham News*

Bayou Bend, the residence of Miss Ima Hogg on Lazy Lane, Houston, Texas, has been presented to the Museum of Fine Arts to serve as a decorative arts museum. Miss Hogg will continue to live in the house and supervise the arrangement of the collection, which Museum Director Lee Malone describes as "one of the three leading collections of Americana anywhere in the world." When alterations are completed, the house and grounds will be known as The Bayou Bend Collections.

MOUNT VERNON RESEARCH FACILITIES

Research material acquired by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association since 1859, has formed the basis of the extensive special reference library there. Its scope is primarily the personal and domestic life of George Washington and his family; and the cultural history of 18th-century Virginia as its architecture, horticulture, domestic arts and crafts were expressed at *Mount Vernon.*

In addition to some 1600 manuscripts, there are photostats of 1000 others; a library of 3000 reference volumes, including the Jackson collection of Washington eulogies and biographies. There are maps, early views of *Mount Vernon,* drawings and some of the volumes from Washington's own library. Although intended primarily for the use of the Association staff as an aid to restoration, students and scholars are welcome. Inquiries may be addressed to Julius P. Barclay, librarian.

The Coolidge Homestead, Plymouth, Vt., where Calvin Coolidge was sworn in as the 30th president of the United States upon the death of President Harding, was presented to the Vermont Historic Sites Commission by his son and daughter-in-law, John and Florence Coolidge. It is planned to open it to the public this summer.—*Vermont Development Commission*

SHORT COURSES

July 25-27 a Blue Grass Preservation short course will be held under the co-sponsorship of the Foundation for the Preservation of Historic Lexington and Fayette County, Ky., and the National Trust, which is being made possible by a contribution of the Lilly Endowments, Inc. The program is designed as a study of the unique architectural and historical heritage of the Blue Grass section of Kentucky and as an aid to those working actively in the historic preservation field. The course will consist of illustrated lectures, panel sessions, musical programs, individual consultation periods, and a guided tour of old houses and gardens of the area, including the villages of Shakertown and Harrodsburg. Those who will participate in the program are: Joseph C. Graves, Richard H. Howland, Richard Bales, Earl H. Reed, James L. Cogar, Miss Barbara Snow, Mrs. Lida Mayo, Clay Lancaster, Mrs. Margaret Brown Klapthor, Frederick D. Nichols, Miss Agnes Downey, Gerald Ham, Mrs. Helen Duprey Bullock, and Mrs. Betty Walsh Morris.

Registration for the course is limited to 80 members of the two organizations. The fee of $25.00 includes all lectures, social events, bus tours and meals. It does not include hotel or transportation to and from Lexington.

The University of Connecticut and the Frank C. Munson Memorial Institute of American History will offer a graduate summer course in American Maritime History July 8-August 16 at Historic Mystic Seaport, Conn. Address inquiries to Summer Session Office, the University of Connecticut, Storrs, Conn.

Under the sponsorship of the Connecticut Historical Society, the Antiquarian and Landmarks Society of Connecticut and the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, a three-months seminar on the practical and economic phases of restoring old houses is being held. It is planned for those who plan to restore an old house for modern living without sacrificing its quality or reducing its value as an architectural example. Authorities on various phases of the problem will give a series of lectures and the course will end with a tour of historic sites. Details may be obtained from the Connecticut Historical Society, Elizabeth Street, Hartford.

The Tenth Annual Seminar on American Culture is scheduled for June 30-July 13 at Cooperstown, N.Y., under the auspices of the New York State Historical Association. There are two separate programs for each week. All members of the National Trust will receive a prospectus and details of the course. For information write to Louis C. Jones, Director, New York State Historical Association, Cooperstown, N. Y.

PUBLICATIONS

Through the cooperation of the American Society of Planning Officials and the Magazine ANTIQUES, the National Trust has available two aids for historic preservation projects and guides for community action. The first of these is *Preservation of Historic Districts by Architectural Control* by John Codman of the Beacon Hill Civic Association, Boston (36 pp. illus., tables and graphs, $2.50, or $1.50 to members and member organizations of the National Trust). Mr. Codman has made a study and analysis of early American cities having architectural control laws governing old and historic districts, and summarizes opinions from the various elements of the community from the Chambers of Commerce and realtors to the historic preservation societies. It also outlines a plan for securing such controls in an area.

A Primer for Preservation: a Handbook for Historic House Keeping (Historic House Keeping series No. 1, reprinted by ANTIQUES; 23 pp. illus., price $1.00). The articles were first offered as talks before the participants in the pioneer short course sponsored jointly by the Trust and the New York State Historical Association in September 1955 in Cooperstown, N. Y. The papers are "The Challenge and a Plan" by Frederick L. Rath, Jr.; "Interpretation" by Edward P. Alexander; "An Approach to Furnishing" by Nina Fletcher Little; "Techniques and Problems" by Frederick D. Nichols, A. I. A.; "The Training of Guides" by Florence M. Montgomery; "What's Wrong with Historic Preservation" by Kenneth Chorley; and "A Look at Historic Preservation" by Louis C. Jones.

The Criteria for Evaluating Historic Sites and Buildings revised by the Commitee on Standards and Surveys in May 1956 (7 pp.) is available in single copies to members upon request. Additional copies are 25 cents with a discount of 20% for orders of ten or more sent to the same address.

DESTRUCTION

Fire, modernization, filling stations, seaways and throughways, parking lots and vandalism resulted in widespread losses of historic buildings throughout the nation in the last quarter year. In a number of instances city officials tore down historic structures that had been bequeathed to them in trust for the public because lack of maintenance had caused such deterioration that razing was justified in terms of expense and the threatening condition of the buildings.

Fires

Milford, Conn. The 175-year-old Garrett Van Horn Dewitt house was badly damaged by fire and water in a December blaze.

Boston, Mass. St. John the Evangelist Church in north Cambridge, the Greek Orthodox Church in Central Square, Cambridge, and St. Joseph's Church in Boston's west end were fired by an arsonist in one week end, with damage running over a million to St. John's alone.

Trenton, N. J. Arson was responsible for fires in four Trenton churches in one night. Two suffered severe damage. More than $200,000 damage was done to the First Methodist Church, but firemen succeeded in keeping the blaze from the main part of the church, founded in 1772. The other severely-damaged structure was the First Born Living Church.

Dover, N. H. The Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunication was destroyed by fire shortly after the congregation had attended services. A funeral eulogy to Abraham Lincoln was delivered there the day after his assassination.

Somerset, Mass. The two-century-old Jerathmael Bowers house, which stood on land owned by the Bowers family from 1695, was swept by a fire which gutted the lavish interior and left standing as an empty shell the building which is closest tied to the history of the village.

Cambridge, Mass. A roofer's torch set off a fire that damaged the 190-foot tower of Harvard University's Memorial Hall, erected in 1878 to honor its Civil War dead. The building, described by one professor in 1949 as "the most frightening building in Greater Boston" had recently undergone extensive repairs.

Vandals

Indianapolis, Ind. Looting and damaging of the South Side's Hendrick's mansion is spurring efforts to have the state of Indiana take over the home of former governor and vice-president Thomas A. Hendricks, which was once a way station on the underground railroad for escaping slaves. Students of nearby Wood High School demonstrated their good citizenship by volunteering to clean up the damage.

Lake Forest, Ill. Vandals have wreaked such damage to *Villa Turicum*, the $7 million-dollar mansion which has stood vacant since the death of its last owner, Mrs. Rockefeller McCormick in 1932, that its new owner doubts that much of it can be salvaged. Ornate carved Italian marble fireplaces, sculptured fountains, elaborate woodwork have been chipped and defaced, great classical urns tumbled down monumental staircases wrecking urns and staircases in passing.

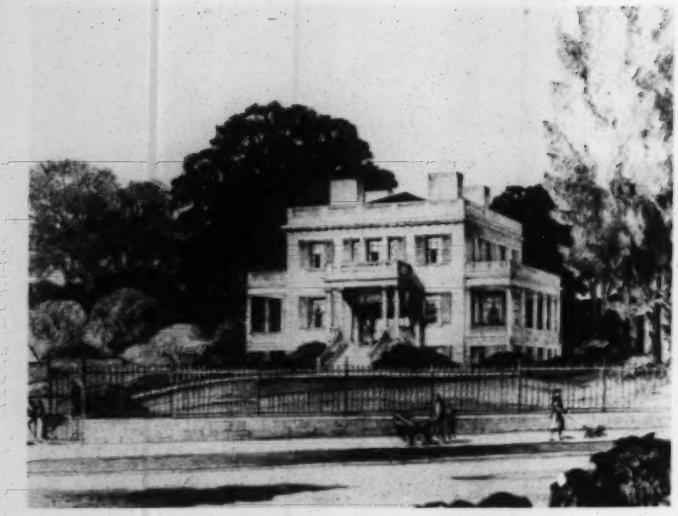
Residence of the novelist and essayist, Charles Dudley Warner, in the literary colony known as *Nook Farm*, Hartford, Conn., will be razed for a new high school site. Of the houses in the *Farm* that sheltered such literary and historical figures as Warner, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Mark Twain, Gen. Joseph Hawley, William Gillette, and others, only the Twain and Stowe houses may remain.—*M. J. Boardman, Hartford Times*

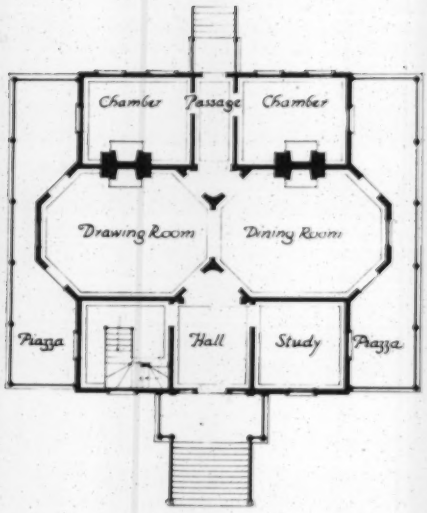
Parking Lots and Filling Stations

Buffalo, N. Y. Parking space for an adjoining hotel will be provided when the "house with the silver doorknobs" is razed. Built in 1861 for Jerome Fargo, brother of the co-founder of Wells-Fargo, it was noted for the Victorian opulence of its interior and the famous hospitality of its owner.

Oakland, Calif. The house that watched this city grow up, and in its heyday entertained President McKinley, will be demolished to create a 100 x 170-foot parking lot. It was built in 1872 by Dr. Samuel Merrit, once Oakland's mayor, regent of the University of California and founder of Merritt Hospital.

West Sand Lake, Conn. Built in 1830 as a tavern, the building that was the center of community activity for several generations has been razed for a store parking lot. Among the village affairs held in its great ballroom was the annual meeting of the West Sand Lake Society for Protection Against Horse Thieves.





Restored elevation, and first floor plan of *Hamilton Grange* on proposed new site.—*American Scenic and Preservation Society*

IN DANGER

New York, N. Y. "The preservation of *Hamilton Grange* has reached the crisis stage," stated James G. Van Derpool, board member of the American Scenic and Preservation Society, which owns the New York City home of Alexander Hamilton, first Secretary of the Treasury. In a special report to the National Trust he outlined the efforts made to find adequate funds to remove the house from its present blighted area where it has the status of a row dwelling to a rural setting on the wooded campus of Manhattanville College of the City of New York.

Appeals for funds were addresesd to the Congressional Committee in charge of the celebration of the bi-centennial of the birth of Hamilton, to foundations and individuals. The response has been so meager, according to Van Derpool, "that hope of a successful conclusion to our efforts to finance the removal of the mansion to the nearby site, effect its re-erection and furnishing, now seems utterly lost."

At its March meeting the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments passed a resolution re-affirming its earlier stand of 1955 designating *The Grange* as an historic site notably worthy of preservation.

Louisville, Ky. The former home of President Zachary Taylor has been offered for sale. The house, built 1794-95 by the president's father on 350 acres of land, described in the deed as being "on the muddy fork of Beargrass Creek," was the president's residence until his death in 1850. He was buried in the family cemetery on the grounds, but his body was removed in 1926 to Zachary Taylor National Cemetery on Brownsboro Road. The grounds are now Springfield Subdivision.

Easton, Md. Maryland's official state tree, four-century-old Wye oak is dying. The ancient giant is 95 feet tall with a spread of 140 feet, and stands near restored Wye Chapel (1722) and Wye Mill, which ground the grain for Washington's army. Tree surgeons are keeping the tree alive by artificial feeding, tree surgery and tree management, but estimate it can survive only five or six more years.

Anderson, S. C. One of the great ante-bellum mansions of the city, *Arlington*, is on a site that will have to be cleared for an Army Reserve Training Center. It was built by James Orr, speaker of the House of Representatives in Buchanan's cabinet, who organized a Confederate regiment in the Civil War, served as governor of South Carolina and died in St. Petersburg while ambassador to Russia. Vandals have already wreaked extensive damage on the classical interior in a quest for hidden treasure.

Portsmouth, N. H. The Recreation Division of the State of New Hampshire, which accepted the famous Benning-Wentworth Mansion on Little Harbor, is having difficulties in providing for urgent repairs and maintenance. The house was a gift of Mrs. J. Templeton Coolidge to the state. The earliest portion of the house was erected in 1695, and was greatly extended by Benning Wentworth, who served as colonial governor 1741-67. Reporting the critical situation in regard to repairs, Philbrook Paine in the Manchester News concluded, "At the last meeting of the General Court, the members passed a resounding resolution in favor of Benning Wentworth, his house, and New Hampshire's Golden Age, but they neglected to provide so much as a dollar to fix the roof."